



STATE OF INDIANA  
INDIANA STATE EXCISE POLICE

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**For Immediate Release**

**Excise Officers Arrest 47 in Muncie**

**MUNCIE, Ind. (Aug. 24)** – Indiana State Excise Police officers arrested 47 people on 71 charges in Muncie this weekend.

That's down from last weekend, when excise officers arrested 71 people on 88 charges as Ball State University students returned to campus for classes last week.

On Friday, 24 minors were arrested on 27 charges, including: illegal possession of alcohol, false statement of age, misuse of driver's license and possession of false ID. Five adults were cited on six charges, including furnishing alcohol to minors and various traffic violations.

On Saturday, 16 minors were arrested on 30 charges, including: illegal possession of alcohol, possession of false ID, false statement of age, open container (in vehicle) and various traffic violations. Two adults were cited or jailed on eight alcohol- and traffic-related charges.

Randy T. Gibson, 27, of Gaston, was preliminarily jailed on seven charges after excise officers saw him traveling on Riverside with no headlights. Gibson was preliminarily charged with operating while intoxicated, operating while intoxicated with prior conviction, operating while intoxicated with BAC greater than .15%, operating while intoxicated/refusal, driving while suspended with prior conviction and public intoxication. Gibson was also arrested for failure to appear on a previous case in Delaware County. He was ticketed for failing to use headlights when required, as well.

"The goal of the State Excise Police this week is to help ensure that students arrive on college campuses across the state safely," Superintendent Matt Strittmatter said. "Sadly, in recent years, at least one student has lost a life because of the excessive consumption of alcohol. We will work diligently to prevent such tragic losses of life."

As the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, the primary mission of the Indiana State Excise Police is to promote public safety by enforcing Indiana's Alcoholic Beverage Code. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on alcohol, tobacco and related laws.

*All criminal defendants are to be presumed innocent until, and unless, proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.*